

SAFETY ALERT



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:
AFZX-SA

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER AND FORT POLK
6661 WARRIOR TRAIL, BUILDING 350
FORT POLK, LOUISIANA 71459-5339



MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Accident with Injuries -- Safety Alert 06-01

1. A Soldier was recently involved in an accident while trail riding on a borrowed ATV. The Soldier attempted to ride up a steep incline when the ATV flipped over on him. The Soldier sustained serious injuries requiring hospitalization. The Soldier was wearing an approved helmet but had not taken an approved ATV rider safety course.

2. **What were the mistakes?**

- a. Operating an ATV without completing the required rider safety course.
- b. Over estimating riding skills and improper riding procedures while attempting to ride up an incline.
- c. Unfamiliar with the borrowed ATV.

3. **Lessons Learned:**

- a. All Soldiers who operate an ATV, regardless of ownership, are required to attend the All Terrain Vehicle Safety Institute (ASI) certified ATV rider safety course.
 - b. Improper riding procedures, lack of necessary skill and poor judgment lead to accident and injury. Consider the consequences before riding a vehicle with which you have no experience.
4. Leaders must ensure that Soldiers understand and comply with all requirements for ATVs. Leaders must stress that these requirements pertain to Soldiers operating or riding ATVs on or off post.

ENSURE WIDEST DISSEMINATION, BRIEF TO ALL SOLDIERS, AND POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS!

MICHAEL D. BARBERO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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